



# Swan Valley – Sculpture Artwork

Public Art

Expression of Interest - Artist Brief

Closing date 4pm, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

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# Swan Valley – Sculpture Artwork

## Introduction

The City of Swan is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from suitably qualified and experienced artists, sculptors or multidisciplinary artist teams for the concept design, detailed design, fabrication and installation of a public artwork sculpture within the Swan Valley region.

The proposed sculpture will serve as a permanent tribute to the migrant women who played a vital role in establishing and sustaining the viticultural industry within the Swan Valley throughout the 1920s to 1960s. The artwork is intended to recognise and celebrate the labour, resilience, cultural traditions and community contribution of women within vineyard and winery operations.

The purpose of Public Art in the City of Swan is to “add to the visual amenity, promote cultural diversity and celebrate Place” (POL-C-142). A vision of the City’s Strategic Community Plan is to create unique and attractive places, recognizing that public art can strengthen local identity and enrich the visual environment.

## Project Location

The artwork sculpture chosen location is at the entrance of Baskerville Memorial Hall located at 129 Memorial Avenue, Baskerville WA.





## Scope of works

The Swan Valley is Western Australia's oldest wine region and is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, migrant history and longstanding viticultural traditions that have shaped the region's identity and community for generations. Established through small family-owned vineyards and wineries from the early 1900s and strengthened through post war European migration, the Swan Valley remains a significant historical and tourism destination celebrating agriculture, community and multicultural contribution.

City of Swan seeks to engage a suitably qualified and experienced artist or artist team for the design development, fabrication, delivery and installation of a public artwork sculpture within the Swan Valley region.

The sculpture will serve as a permanent tribute to the migrant women who played a significant role in establishing and sustaining the viticultural industry within the Swan Valley throughout the 1920s to 1960s. The artwork is intended to recognise and celebrate the labour, resilience, cultural traditions and community contribution of women within vineyard and winery operations.

The artist / fabricator will work with the City of Swan's Project Manager in the development and final siting of the sculpture.

The objectives of the project are to:

- Develop a high-quality public artwork that respectfully commemorates the women of the Swan Valley viticultural industry.
- Create an artwork that reflects the historical significance of migrant families, particularly Croatian and Italian communities, within the Swan Valley.
- Deliver a visually engaging and durable sculpture suitable for long-term outdoor public display.

- Encourage public interaction, education and cultural storytelling through artistic interpretation and accompanying interpretive elements.
- Ensure the artwork integrates sensitively within the surrounding landscape and public realm.

For safety and durability, the artwork must be made of durable materials, capable of being touched and handled by people.

Engineering and structural certification of the artwork and its footings including fabrication are to be included in the delivery and cost of the art form. The engagement, coordination and remuneration of the engineer must be done by the artist.

Depending on the form of the artwork, a building permit may be required. Structures that are taller than 2.4 metres in height and are bigger than 10 square metres in area will require a building permit. If a building permit is required, the City will apply for the building permit on behalf of the artist and cover the associated application fees.

A written maintenance instruction will be required upon completion and installation of the works.

## Artwork Design Requirements

The artwork is to respectfully commemorate and celebrate the migrant women who played a significant role in the development and sustainability of the Swan Valley viticultural industry throughout the early to mid-1900s. The sculpture should portray these women as strong, resilient and empowering figures within the community recognising them not only for their physical labour and sacrifice, but also as pillars of their families, workplaces and wider migrant communities. The artwork should acknowledge the leadership, determination and cultural contribution of these women, while reflecting the broader story of migration, family, resilience and community building within the Swan Valley.

The artwork should be historically informed, drawing inspiration from the 1950s migration period within the Swan Valley, while maintaining an enduring and timeless artistic quality. Artists are encouraged to consider representations of women working within vineyards and wineries, undertaking tasks such as harvesting, pruning, sorting grapes, bottling, carrying produce or supporting family farming operations. The inclusion of family or intergenerational themes, such as children or domestic elements, may also be considered to reflect the broader role women played as caregivers, leaders and foundational figures within migrant households and communities.

The artwork should create a strong visual presence within the landscape while remaining approachable and engaging to the public. Consideration should be given to human scale, visibility, accessibility and interaction, encouraging visitors to walk around and experience the sculpture from multiple perspectives. The sculpture should evoke a sense of strength, pride and dignity, while harmonising with the surrounding environment and contributing positively to the public realm and visitor experience.

The City encourages the use of durable, high-quality materials suitable for long-term outdoor public display. Artists may consider materials such as cast bronze, stone, steel or other appropriate media capable of withstanding environmental conditions while maintaining artistic integrity over time. Artists are encouraged to explore themes including, but not limited to:

- Migration and settlement;
- Women in agriculture and viticulture;
- Family and community;
- Cultural heritage and identity;

- Strength, resilience and perseverance;
- Intergenerational legacy;
- Vineyard and winery life;
- European migrant traditions within the Swan Valley;
- Connection to land and labour; and
- The evolution of the Swan Valley as a renowned viticultural region.

Artists are also encouraged to incorporate symbolic or interpretive elements associated with the Swan Valley viticultural industry, including grapevines, vine leaves, grapes, harvesting tools, wooden crates or other historically relevant materials and forms.

Refer to Appendix A – Historical Reference Images and Artwork Inspiration for historical imagery, contextual references and indicative examples intended to guide the artistic response and thematic direction of the artwork.

## Project Timeframes

It is expected that the successful respondent will be available to commence work within ten (10) working days from the issue of the Notice of Award, unless otherwise agreed with the Project Team.

Stage One of the project will include concept development, detailed design development, stakeholder consultation, preparation of final artwork documentation and coordination of all required engineering and structural certifications associated with the artwork installation. All artwork designs, certifications and associated approvals are to be completed by November 2026.

Any planning approvals, development approvals and/or building approvals required for the project will be managed by the Project Manager and will not form part of the artist's responsibilities.

Fabrication of the artwork is anticipated to commence from November 2026 following approval of the final design package. The successful respondent will be responsible for fabrication, transport, delivery and installation of the artwork in accordance with the approved design documentation and project programme.

Installation and Practical Completion of the artwork is to be achieved by April 2027.\*

\*Final project dates may be revised through mutual agreement with the Project Team.

## Project Budget

The City of Swan has allocated a lump sum budget of \$80,000 excluding GST for the delivery of the artwork project.

The budget is to include all costs associated with the design development, fabrication, transport, installation and completion of the artwork, including but not limited to:

- Artist design development;
- Stakeholder meetings and consultation;
- Progress reporting;
- Site inspections and attendance;
- Structural and engineering certification;
- Engagement and coordination of suitably qualified engineers;
- Fabrication and finishing of the artwork;

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- Supply of all materials;
- Transport and delivery;
- Installation works;
- Temporary fencing, plant and equipment;
- Installation of interpretive plaque/signage; and
- Preparation and submission of a maintenance manual.

The successful artist shall be responsible for coordinating and engaging all required consultants and subcontractors necessary for delivery of the artwork, including engineering services and certifications.

The Contract shall include all labour, materials, plant, tools, equipment, supervision, insurances, transportation, installation and all other items necessary for the complete delivery of the artwork and associated components, unless otherwise stated.

Any planning approvals, development approvals and/or associated building approvals required for the project will be managed and paid for by the City of Swan and are not required to be included within the Artist's submission.

Milestone	Indicative Timeframe
Contract Award	September 2026
Design Development	September – October 2026
Approval of Final Artwork Design and Submission of Footing Details including Engineering Certification	November 2026
Commencement of Artwork Fabrication	November 2026
Progress Review of Artwork Prior to Final Completion	January 2027
Review and Sign Off of Completed Artwork	March 2027
Installation of Artwork On Site	April 2027
Submission of Maintenance Manual	April 2027

The above programme is indicative only and may be revised through mutual agreement between the successful artist and the City's Project Manager. Earlier completion timeframes may be considered where achievable and practical.

## Detailed Design Submission Requirements

Shortlisted respondents invited to participate in the RFQ process shall provide a detailed design submission inclusive of the following information:

### 1. Scaled Drawings and Design Documentation

Detailed scaled drawings of the proposed artwork including:

- Site plan identifying the proposed artwork location and orientation;
- Elevations, sections and detail drawings;
- Artwork dimensions and scale relative to the site;
- Proposed materials, finishes and colour palette;
- Fabrication methodology and construction details; and
- Preliminary footing and structural considerations where applicable.

### 2. Equipment and Installation Methodology

Details of all equipment, plant and machinery proposed to be utilised during fabrication and installation activities including, but not limited to:

- Crane requirements;
- Elevated work platforms;
- Traffic management requirements;
- Temporary fencing and exclusion zones;
- Delivery and unloading methodology; and
- Any specialist installation equipment or contractors required.

### 3. Access, Site and Security Requirements

Details outlining any site access requirements, operational constraints and security considerations associated with installation of the artwork including:

- Site access arrangements;
- Storage or laydown requirements;
- Public safety and pedestrian management measures;
- Protection of existing assets and landscaping;
- Security requirements during installation; and
- Any anticipated impacts to surrounding site operations or public access.

### 4. Programme and Delivery Schedule

An indicative programme identifying key project stages including design development, fabrication, delivery and installation timeframes.

### 5. Maintenance and Durability Considerations

Preliminary maintenance requirements and details regarding durability, anti-vandal considerations, protective coatings and expected asset lifespan.

### 6. Indicative Cost Breakdown

A lump sum quotation inclusive of all design, fabrication, engineering, transport and installation costs associated with delivery of the artwork.

## Maintenance Manual

The Maintenance Manual must include:

- 1) Project Details
- 2) Artist and Consultant Details
- 3) Artwork Description
- 4) Subcontractors and Fabricators
- 5) Materials and Installed Components
- 6) Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Requirements
- 7) As-Constructed Documentation
- 8) Warranties and Certifications

## Expression of Interest Artists

The City of Swan invites Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified and experienced artists or artist teams for the design, fabrication and installation of a public artwork sculpture recognising the contribution of migrant women to the Swan Valley viticultural industry.

As part of the EOI process, artists and/or artist teams are requested to provide evidence of previous works relevant to this project, current curriculum vitae and a brief written response outlining their proposed artistic approach, indicative concepts, themes and materiality relevant to the project brief.

EOI submissions will be assessed by an evaluation panel against the following criteria:

1. Quality and relevance of previous artwork projects and demonstrated artistic merit;
2. Demonstrated ability to successfully deliver projects within required timeframes, budgets and quality expectations;
3. Written response to the project brief including proposed approach, indicative concepts, themes and materials;
4. Suitability of proposed artistic approach for the nominated site location, with public safety and durability considered a priority;
5. Demonstrated acknowledgement and interpretation of the key themes identified within the Scope of Works;
6. Ability of the artwork to engage and connect with the public audience; and
7. Consideration of long-term maintenance, durability and asset longevity.

EOI submissions are to be provided electronically as a single PDF document and must include the following:

- 1) Cover Letter  
A letter outlining:  
Interest in the project;  
Capacity to undertake and complete the project within the nominated timeframe and budget; and  
Identification of the lead artist where a team submission is provided.

## 2) Previous Relevant Experience

A maximum of five (5) images of previous relevant artworks and projects completed by the artist and/or artist team. Submissions are to include:

Artwork title;  
Project location;  
Materials utilised;  
Dimensions; and  
Project budget/value.

## 3) Curriculum Vitae

Current CVs for all artist and/or team members involved in the project delivery.

## 4) Programme Confirmation

Written confirmation that the artist and/or artist team is able to meet the indicative project programme and milestones identified within this EOI documentation.

## 5) Written Response to Brief

A brief written statement outlining:

- Proposed artistic approach;
- Potential concepts and themes;
- Proposed materials and finishes;
- Approach to public engagement and interpretation; and
- Consideration of durability and integration within the Swan Valley environment.

Following assessment of the EOI submissions, up to three (3) artists and/or artist teams may be shortlisted to participate in a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process involving preparation of a more detailed design proposal specific to the site.

Each shortlisted respondent will receive a payment of \$1,200 excluding GST for the preparation and submission of the detailed concept proposal.

The City of Swan reserves the right to reject any or all submissions and is not bound to accept the lowest priced or any submission received.

## Shortlisted Artists

Shortlisted artists and/or artist teams will be invited to participate in a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process for the development of a detailed artwork concept specific to the project site.

Each shortlisted respondent will receive a payment of \$1,200 excluding GST for the preparation and submission of a detailed design proposal and quotation.

The RFQ documentation will outline the detailed submission requirements, project information and assessment criteria. Submission requirements are anticipated to include:

- Detailed artwork concept and artistic narrative;
- Concept sketches, renders and/or visualisations;
- Preliminary material palette and finishes;

- Proposed dimensions and scale;
- Installation methodology and indicative footing requirements;
- Preliminary maintenance considerations;
- Project programme and delivery methodology;
- Relevant experience and examples of previous public artwork projects;
- Indicative budget breakdown; and
- Any proposed stakeholder or community engagement opportunities.

Submissions are likely to be assessed against criteria including, but not limited to:

- Demonstrated artistic merit, creativity and originality;
- Alignment with the project vision, themes and historical significance;
- Responsiveness to the Swan Valley context, landscape and community identity;
- Experience delivering public art projects of similar scale and complexity;
- Demonstrated understanding of durability, public safety and maintenance requirements;
- Feasibility of the proposed design within the allocated budget and programme;
- Quality and appropriateness of proposed materials and fabrication methodology;
- Integration of interpretive and storytelling elements;
- Capacity to successfully deliver the artwork within the required timeframe; and
- Overall value for money.

## Conditions of Contract

The Contract is subject to the following Conditions of Contract:

City of Swan General Conditions of Contract for the supply of Artwork which are available on the City of Swan Website;

<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/awcontent/Web/Documents/Local-Laws-Policies/city-of-swan-general-conditions-of-contract-for-the-supply-of-artwork.pdf>

## Expression of Interest Submission deadline

**4pm, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Please email submissions to Kayla McNicol, Senior Project Manager, [kayla.mcnicol@swan.wa.gov.au](mailto:kayla.mcnicol@swan.wa.gov.au)

# Swan Valley – Sculpture Artwork



## Appendix A – Historical Reference Images and Artwork Inspiration





*Bringing in the Swan Valley grape harvest*



city of **swan**

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**Contact details:**

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